

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 428

By Jones

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Albert Bender for his meritorious service as a community leader and chairman of the American Indian Coalition of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable public servants who, through their extraordinary efforts, have become leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Albert Bender, who has rendered many years of sterling service to the indigenous populations and good people of Tennessee as a writer, activist, and attorney of Cherokee descent; and

WHEREAS, a thousand years ago, Nashville and Middle Tennessee were home to the largest Native American population in the Southeast, and growing up, Albert Bender recognized the challenges and tribulations faced by the Cherokee and other Native Americans; his first memories include hearing about the Trail of Tears and the historic conflicts that Native Americans faced, including his great-great-grandfather, who died defending himself against settlers; and

WHEREAS, Albert Bender serves with acumen and alacrity as chairman of the American Indian Coalition in Tennessee, a most befitting position that honors his heritage and his commitment to preserving local indigenous cultures; and

WHEREAS, a renowned and influential leader of his community, Mr. Bender has committed years of advocacy and service to Native American cultural preservation and justice; he became an attorney to engage in a legal practice that would assist and promote Native American rights and sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bender has diligently represented the State of Tennessee and distinguished himself as an exceptional community leader and activist; and

WHEREAS, Albert Bender epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Albert Bender for his years of dedicated service to the State of Tennessee and its indigenous citizens and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.